

## Once in a While.

### To Explain.

Man is a victim of moods—that is, every man who is not a crank or a fanatic. Perhaps the terms "crank" and "fanatic" are in their last analysis interchangeable. At any rate, to the general run of laymen, such are persons of one idea, and that idea is so persistent in its reappearance as to crowd out nearly all others and to excite the wrath of the general public who, against their volition, are kept stumbling over it much as one stumbles over newly-plowed and wholly unharrowed field of a dark night, and on a spot where a road has long been open to public use. Now, being neither a "crank" nor a fanatic, I am, according to my own generalizing of the race, a being of moods. There is therefore a perpetual warfare between the pessimistic and optimistic emotions that pervade me, and if I am to do any writing it must even be as the mood directs. When, therefore, I have succeeded in doing some one, I shall be the "optimist"; on the other hand, when some one shall have succeeded in "doing" me then am I the "pessimist." Those who have the patience to pursue these lines to this time may as well learn that I have been "done" this past week and "done brown." Hence these ebullitions.

### The Mardi Gras Fences and Poles.

When the city through its officers gives permission for the use of a portion of some thoroughfare in order that the building of some structure may be carried on without danger to the public or delay to the contractor, it may be well to ask what other privileges go with the grant? In every case near the business center, where the street is partly enclosed for building purposes, a fence is erected and the fence is covered with glaring and disfiguring signs. Such a thing would not be tolerated when the building is completed, and why the owner of the ground, or the contractor, when granted a privilege that protects and saves him and which inconveniences the public, should presume that he is also accorded the right to offend the sight is not generally understood.

And this also calls attention to the defacing of building roofs with circus signs; though this is not so much a violation of public favor as the giving of permission by the street railway, or the electric light, or the telephone, or all three companies for the hanging of Buffalo Bill Wild West show bills all over the center of the business streets, using the public franchise as a means of getting advertising or other moneys out of the circus. It is fair to presume that in granting franchises there was no thought of an advertising bureau being operated under it than that it included the right to put mustard plasters on bald heads for the purpose of curing heart disease.

And it should not be allowed. Clearly there must be a gain in it, or it would not be practiced. If therefore the streets are to be used as a means for displaying posters, and this too at the offense of the eye and the direct inconvenience of the public, the profits should go to the city or a reasonable amount of them.

### Father Keenan and the Dailies.

Few things have proven so thoroughly disgraceful to the press of Salt Lake as the course pursued by the daily papers relative to Rev. Father Keenan of the Catholic church of this city. A temporary disappearance by him, due to physical disability which affected him mentally was the subject of scare head lines and articles which suggested to the imagination a field for conjecture so wide that the most debased mind could revel in it in unrestrained debauchery. Here was no public man in the ordinary sense of the word. His life was to his church and to his parishioners. These had no unkind suspicions to cast forth; but that a semi-sensation might be

worked up through the sanctity of a former life that it was intimated had fallen prey to a too common disease, these harpies pounced upon the hoped for putrid carrion and spread it before a sniffing community that read, and piously sighed and chuckled. What to these purveyors of humanity's sewage did it matter how complete the wreck that might be made of the life of a man whose head is whitening with ripening years and good deeds?

This Father Keenan, even had he given way to the influence of intoxicants, had not paraded his deformity before men. No common brawler or saloon bragger, or beer lusher had he shown himself. Then where the public concern about the man? His name was of use to the papers only as they could debauch it and destroy his character and his labors for good among a few who held him dear out of the infinite multitude that cared not what became of him save as it gratified their unholy lust for sensation.

I have known the press of this city for many years, but never have I known it to make so palpable a display of its love of social sewage as in this case. God help the young if such are to be their monitors, and such the palladium of their liberties.

Joseph Smith of Nauvoo was a Mason—When did God Change His Mind President Joseph Smith?

While President Joseph F. Smith is inveighing against secret societies, his opposition did not go to the extent of ignoring their existence or failing to seek for a favorable impression among their membership. About the time of the Elks' convention in Salt Lake vast number of Pythian Knights passed through the city on their way to California. And a committee of fifty members of the Mormon church was delegated to show visitors the sights, hand out literature, and impress (as favorably as possible to the church and its doctrines) those who came within the circle of their duties. The selection of church members for this duty was made from among clean and capable men and women, they were stationed at eligible points and refused to accept any reward for their services. But it was worthy of note that no copies of President Smith's diatribes against secret organizations were among the literature so profusely distributed gratuitously by hand unwarded peculiarly.

And yet I don't know that he is not right in principle, though the attitude of such a man on such a subject is what gives the pessimistic turn to the whole affair. I can understand why a man should inveigh against all secret bodies—there are solid reasons for opposition apart from all religious considerations—but why the head of one of the most complete secret organizations existing should himself raise his voice against ALL secret bodies gives one to pause and to wonder at the man's nerve or stupidity and what the light in which his denunciation of secret societies will be viewed by members of the secret church organization of which Mr. Smith is the head would prove very knotty were not all doubt removed by past experience of the abject servitude of that membership.

The fact that Mormons ally themselves with other secret bodies as well as with the Mormon church would suggest to a well meaning man who had a very common kind of common sense that the members of his secret body did not find in his organization all their nature's crave for; and that, therefore, they have been compelled to go outside to satisfy themselves, and such a man with such a very common kind of common sense would undertake to give in his own society that which men's natures called for. But Mr. Smith is not that kind of a man. So he proceeds to denounce all, either in the hope of disguising the fact that the Mormon church is a secret society, or because he is too ignorant to realize the value of the words to which his organs of speech give utterance. It may seem an act of charity, but it

**We Buy Railroad Tickets.**



**We Sell Railroad Tickets.**

You can always save money by trading at

**GROSHELL'S TICKET OFFICE.**

**221 MAIN STREET.**

Established 15 years and Member of American Ticket Brokers' Association.

**F. H. GROSHELL, Manager.**

**WOOD—WOULD**

The wood the last is made from in Wellworths is seasoned and true shaped—never varying shapes is the result. No Shoddy. You've tried the rest now try the best.

**HIRSCHMANS**

**ORIGINATORS AND MAKERS.**

**Collegiate Institute**

A Christian Academy and safe home for your girls and boys.

Course covers Eighth Grade, High School and College Preparatory. Music Department and pianos for practice in the school buildings. For circulars and particulars, address,

**ROBERT J. CASKEY, Principal.**

**SALT LAKE CITY.**

**SIMON BAMBERGER**  
President.

**L. G. RANSONOFF,**  
Sec'y & Treas.

**H. A. RANSONOFF**  
Manager.



**Ladies' and Children's**

**Cloaks, Suits, Wrappers,**

**Skirts, Waists, Kid Gloves,**

**Notions, Hosiery, Laces**

**and Underwear.**

**THE ONLY EXCLUSIVE LADIES' FURNISHING HOUSE IN THE CITY.**

**MAIL ORDERS PROMPTLY FILLED.**

**228, 230 S. Main St., Salt Lake City**